

**LITCHFIELD  
COUNCIL**



Feb 2021 – June 2021  
**NEWSLETTER 3**

# CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



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# Mayors Message

## Welcome to the first edition of our Community News update for 2021.

A very Happy New Year to all. What a great start to the year we have had with the wet season being so kind to us.



I was delighted to present the **Litchfield Council Australia Day Awards**. It was wonderful to honour and celebrate our residents and organisations who have made incredible contributions to their community. We are all grateful to all nominees and winners for your hard work and dedication to the community in ensuring our space remains welcoming, diverse, creative, and connected. A space able to be shared with our friends and family.

### Special congratulations:

Citizen of the Year	<i>Therese Balanzategui</i>
Event of the Year	<i>Freds Pass Rural Online Show</i>
Young Citizen of the Year	<i>Kiara-Jean Baker</i>

We welcomed **28 new Australian citizens** from 14 different countries to Litchfield on Australia Day. It is a privilege, as Mayor, to be a part of such a memorable occasion for these residents.

Litchfield Council is proud to deliver a variety of projects which contribute to our thriving community.

In December, Council awarded **10 community grants to local sporting and community organisations** for various projects to be undertaken over the next few months.

I am looking forward to seeing the results of these projects and hearing of the impact they are having in the Community. Projects included: International's Women's Day; IT equipment for Veterans Australia NT to support veterans in Litchfield; sporting club equipment; and Arts programs.

The 'myLitchfield' program has come to an end and I am pleased to say that this initiative, supported by NT Government, was very successful for businesses in the area. Of the three rounds a total voucher value of \$180,000 was redeemed by participants which equates to **over \$1Million injected into the Litchfield economy**. Well done to the 5300 plus residents who made use of the vouchers and the 52 businesses who got on board.

The **Litchfield Art Exhibition** is on again in March. Following the success of this event over the past two years, this year we have increased the number of categories and the prize pool. The Exhibition is on the weekend of **6 and 7 March** and is free to attend. There will also be related workshop activities for kids and markets on the Saturday. This is an excellent opportunity for Litchfield artists to share their work and, for the community to celebrate our local talent. The exhibition is hosted in collaboration with Darwin Community Arts.

For our older residents, the **Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors Association (PLSA)** is a big contributor of activities and information in our Community. This group is active in the community having operated since 1997 and membership from Litchfield continues to grow. Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors Association is a busy group who provide opportunities for seniors to participate in stimulating social and support activities and work to keep members up to date with changes and development within the region. The group works to promote a positive understanding of aging in the community and celebrating the contribution seniors make within the community.

As well as Seniors Fortnight, the PLSA hold a range of regular activities, one being the **Seniors Morning Tea, held each month at Taminmin Library**. The group also operates a Volunteer Driver Program to assist those in our region who need assistance to get to medical appointments. Drivers are always needed for this service so if you can assist please get in touch. Currently there is also a vacancy on the management committee for a Litchfield resident, so I encourage anyone who is looking to get involved to contact the group.



# Mayors Message *cont.*

Sport, recreation, and open spaces are critical to our lifestyle and the development of well-planned, coordinated, and integrated facilities across the Municipality is vital. Thanks to the many residents and groups who have contributed to the **draft Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy** so far. The draft Strategy has been through two rounds of community and stakeholder consultation with the final Strategy being put forward for approval at the March Council meeting.

On the Council infrastructure and operations front, the **Mango Roads project** continues to progress; Mocatto Road is now sealed with Horsnell and Chibnall Roads ready to be sealed when

this lovely rain settles down. Kentish Road design is approximately 90% complete with stakeholder consultation underway.

I am pleased to say that after many years of being on the drawing board, the **Mira Square development, that will provide a community gathering and recreation space for residents of Southport, is finally underway.** The 8000m2 area has been allocated and it is anticipated that the area will be ready for the 150 year, historical and fun celebration to be held in June of this year. Southport has an important history as the area served road and river traffic between Port Darwin and the Pine Creek gold rush

days of the 1870s and was the home of a WWII radar station prior to becoming an urban settlement.

In August this year we have an election, so there is the opportunity for our community to go to the polls to decide who will be the leadership team within Council to make those important decisions. This election will see some changes as the Minister for Local Government has recently announced some modifications to the Litchfield Municipality ward structure to commence at the August 2021 election.

Check out Council's website for regular information on updates around the Municipality and call if you would like more information.

*Mayor Maree Bredhauer*

# 2021 Local Government Elections

In December 2020, Minister for Local Government, Hon. Chanston Paech has announced changes to the Litchfield Council area that will commence at the August 2021 Local Government election.

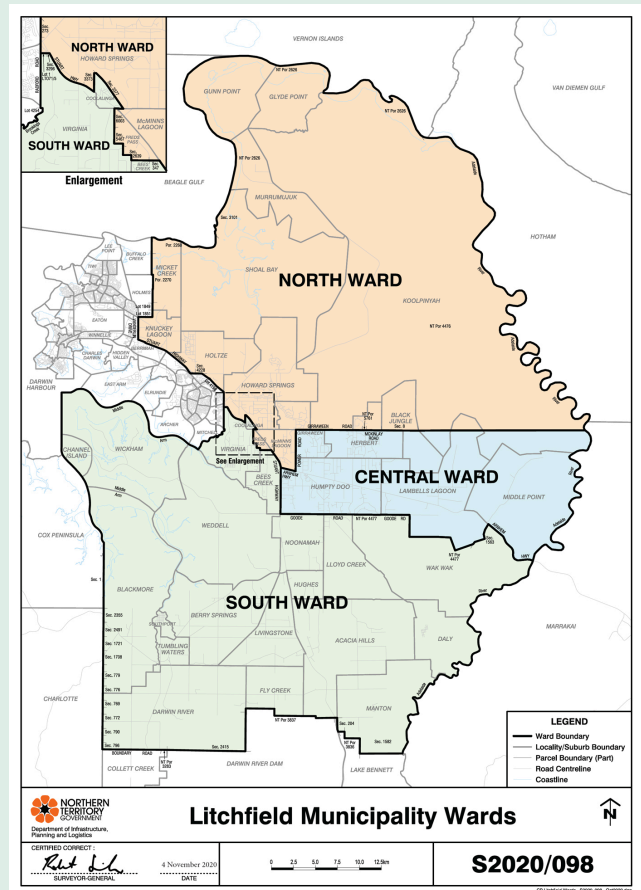
At the 2021 election, the current ward structure and boundaries will be abolished and replaced with new Central, North and South Wards.

Following community consultation in 2020, The Minister has also determined that there will be two members elected for each of the new wards and a Mayor which gives seven Elected Members in total.

This is good news for the representation of the community. Council commenced in the mid 1980's with a population of approximately 5,000 and represented by the current number of Elected Members, five. Now, with over five times the population, growing services and facilities, the community will have more support from their representation in Council.

## Important dates to remember for the 2021 Local Government election includes:

Nominations open	Friday 16 July
Close of electoral roll	Tuesday 27 July
Close of nominations	Thursday 5 August
Early voting commences	Monday 16 August
Election day	Saturday 28 August





## FREDS PASS RURAL SHOW

Planning is underway for the 2021 Freds Pass Rural Show. Litchfield Council will have a stall at this year's show and looks forward to talking to our community.

The Municipal Plan and Budget will be out for public comment and there will be a Councillors Corner where you can come and have a coffee and chat about the proposed budget for the next financial year.

The Taminmin Library will have a display at the show this year with a quiet place for parents to bring their children for a look or to sign up to be a library member.

Keep an eye on the Council Facebook page for details of where the Council stall will be located and what fun activities will be available.

## MANGO ROADS PROJECT UPDATE

The Mango Roads upgrade and seal is a \$21M project jointly funded between the Australian and Northern Territory (NT) governments and Litchfield Council.

Mocatto road is now sealed with minor works on driveways and drainage to be complete in the coming months. Horsnell Road is ready for sealing, which is scheduled for the end of February, weather permitting. The driveways and drainage on Horsnell Road is approximately 50% complete with works ongoing. Chibnall Road is being prepared for the base layer to be constructed, and the driveways and drainage are currently under construction. Kentish Road draft design has been developed and is currently under review. The design includes sealing the road and the construction of driveways. The entire project is expected to be complete by the end of the 2021 dry season.

## 2021 LITCHFIELD COUNCIL ART EXHIBITION

The Litchfield Art Exhibition is on again! The theme this year is 'water', we are surrounded by such beautiful bodies of water in the Litchfield region and especially with the amazing wet season we are having this year. There are eight award categories with just over \$3,000 in prize money including a Community Choice Award worth \$500. The Art Exhibition is open from 10am to 5pm on both Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 March 2021 at the Howard Park Recreation Reserve. It is free entry all weekend and there are many other activities taking place such as cultural workshops for kids by Pudukul and Artesian Markets on the Saturday from 10am to 1pm. Come along for a great weekend of free fun and celebrate our local artists.

## HUMPTY DOO VILLAGE GREEN UPDATES

In November 2020, the Humpty Doo Village Green Management Board notified Council of its intention to dissolve and begin the process of handing the management of the Reserve to Council from Tuesday 16 February 2021. From 30 March 2021, Council will officially manage the Reserve in the interim before an expression of interest will be released later in 2021 for interested community groups to enter a lease agreement and manage the Reserve on behalf of Council. If you would like further information on this or would like to book facilities at the Village Green, please direct all enquiries to Council at [council@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:council@litchfield.nt.gov.au) or 8983 0600. Council would like to extend its sincere thanks to the numerous volunteers of the Humpty Doo Village Green over the past 35 years for their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm into developing the Reserve into the popular place it is today.



### NORTH Ward

**Mathew Salter**

0408 093 838

[mathew.salter@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:mathew.salter@litchfield.nt.gov.au)



### Central Ward

**Christine Simpson** - Deputy Mayor

0417 805 302

[christine.simpson@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:christine.simpson@litchfield.nt.gov.au)



### EAST Ward

**Kirsty Sayers-Hunt**

0418 956 791

[kirsty.sayers-hunt@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:kirsty.sayers-hunt@litchfield.nt.gov.au)



### South Ward

**Doug Barden**

0429 875 390

[doug.barden@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:doug.barden@litchfield.nt.gov.au)

# Works Update

## Power Road Black Spot Project

Recently Council received a \$385,000 Blackspot funding grant to upgrade the floodway on Power Road.

Works will include widening the road and providing safe clear zones on each side. Works are expected to commence in June 2021 and will take approximately two months.

## Virginia Road

Stage 1 of the pavement rehabilitation works will begin in May on Virginia Road. Stage 1 works will include removal of the currently failing pavement where potholes are continually developing and providing a new sealed surface. Associated drainage works will also be completed at the same time. Works are expected to commence in May 2021 and will take approximately two months.

## Shared path works

Works will begin in April 2021 on the footpath on Freds Pass Road. Works will include the refurbishment of the existing pathway from the Arnhem Highway and provide a new connection across Freds Pass Road to connect to the new concrete shared path section that was installed late in 2020 under the Special Community Assistance and Local Employment (SCALE) grant funding. This connection will allow shared path users to travel along the Arnhem Highway and connect to the school and shops.

## Whitewood Road footpath

Stage 2 will commence in April 2021. Stage 2 includes replacing the existing path adjacent Whitewood Road, between Stow and Westall Roads. Works will also include removing the existing surface and replacing the surface with asphalt providing a durable material and increasing the lifespan of the path. It is anticipated that the works will take approximately four weeks to complete. This is Stage 2 of a 3-stage project from Council to refurbish the Whitewood Road shared path.

## Reseal Program

Phase 2 of the Reseals for 2020/2021 will commence in April 2021, with an additional 8.8km of road being sealed on top of the 10.8km of road already sealed in Phase 1. Roads on the Phase 2 reseal list include sections of McMinns Drive, Dreamtime Drive, Orion Way, Paperbark Way, Pheasant Drive, Tufnell Road and Brewerton Road. The reseals are expected to take approximately two months to complete.

## Additional Resealing

Council has received just over \$1 Million in grant funding for the Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program. This funding is for additional resealing of four major collector roads in the Litchfield Municipality. The roads, or sections of roads, identified under this funding is Redcliffe, Townend, Wells Creek and Mocatto. The tender process is due to commence in March 2021 with works to begin shortly after in April. All works should be complete by June 2021



# Youth Week 2021

Northern Territory Youth Week is an annual celebration of young people across the Territory and involves a range of fun and exciting events and activities. Youth Week in 2021 will be held between 9-18 April.

Council has received a \$2,000 grant from the Office of Youth Affairs to run a series of workshops called 'Surviving Adulthood'. These workshops are specifically developed to help young people move forward as adults in the community.

There will be five workshops in total and they will be focused on the following topics:

- *Self-Identity*
- *How to Apply for a Job*
- *Self-Care*
- *How to Budget and Money Talk*
- *Cooking on a Budget*

Keep an eye on Council's Facebook page for dates, more details on the workshops and how to book.





# No More Violence

One woman in three has experienced physical violence since the age of 15, one woman is killed by domestic violence per week in Australia and indigenous women experience disproportionately high levels of family violence.

In 2006, momentum for the NO MORE Campaign began by founder Charlie King.

The NO MORE Campaign places the responsibility of reducing family violence on men, the most common perpetrators. Central to the program is the respect of women. The reduction of family violence needs men to stand up, as individuals and a group, and take ownership for finding a solution.

Today the No MORE Campaign has links with more than five sporting codes and nearly a hundred teams and is still growing.

Wider public awareness of the campaign is growing through the increasing engagement with the sporting community.

The issue of family and domestic violence is not going away.



As the campaign grows, the aim stays the same: to reduce family violence by engaging men in the sporting community.

The NO MORE Campaign aims to create a future free from family violence.

Check out the NO MORE Campaign website to find out more on the Domestic Violence Action Plan and how you can donate to reduce family violence.

## Staff Profile

Working for the Community



### Camilla Cappa - Waste Transfer Station Gatekeeper



Favourite Food: *Anything Italian, preferably cooked by an Italian*

Favourite Superhero: *My Brothers*

Hobbies: *Cooking, Camping, Fishing*

Cats or Dogs: *DOGS!*

Beach or Bush: *Bush*

Coffee or Tea: *Coffee, short black*

Best or most unique place you have visited: *Lorella Springs*

What do you like the most about Litchfield: *The Water holes throughout the area.*



Send your articles and photos to [newsletter@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:newsletter@litchfield.nt.gov.au)

We want to hear from you!

Have you got something to share with the community?



# Have you got your personal items?

Take that little bit of extra time to...

**STOP...** take a moment,

**LOOK...** where are your personal items - have you left anything behind that could be a target for thieves?

**LOCK...** don't leave your bag, wallet or mobile phone unattended. Keep them with you at all times.



For more information visit [nhwnt.org.au](http://nhwnt.org.au) [f nhwnt](https://www.facebook.com/nhwnt) [i nhw\\_nt](https://www.instagram.com/nhw_nt)

Let's tell the community what you have been doing.

email: [newsletter@litchfield.nt.gov.au](mailto:newsletter@litchfield.nt.gov.au)

to have your news and photos in the newsletter

# McMinns Lagoon Signs

In 2019, in response to COVID-19, Council received a Special Community Assistance and Local Employment (SCALE) grant funding from the NT Government.

The grants were provided to support the employment of Territorians, the continued delivery of local government essential services and assist with engaging local communities in activities.

Signage at McMinns Lagoon was identified as one of the SCALE funding projects. This project engaged local contractors in the development, design and when weather permits the installation of the signs.

The signage along walking trails around the Lagoon will take visitors on an educational and interactive experience.

Darwin Community Arts, along with a group of knowledgeable and skilled locals developed the series of signs that tell the story of how the Reserve has progressed over time and about the different flora and fauna you can find while walking around the track.

Special thanks to Brian from McMinns Lagoon Reserve Association for his knowledge and photos for the signs!

Keep an eye on Council's Facebook page for when the signs will be installed. Due to the weather this is expected around April/May 2021.



Register on Your Say Litchfield to be kept up to date on projects, have your say on important matters in the community and have this newsletter emailed directly to you.

**We want to hear from you!**

[yoursay.litchfield.nt.gov.au](http://yoursay.litchfield.nt.gov.au)

**Leichhardt Tree**  
Rest for a moment in the shade and watch the birds on the lagoon.

**Leichhardt Tree flower**  
*Nauclaea orientalis*

**Magpie Geese**  
*Anserus semipalmatus*

**Little Black Cormorants**  
*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

**White-gaped Honeyeater**  
*Lichenostomus unicolor*

**Little Pied Cormorant**  
*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

**Honeyeaters**  
Are there honeyeaters collecting nectar from the flowers? They use strips of paperbark to make their nests and tie them together with spider web and lengths of long grass.

**White-throated Honeyeater**  
*Meliphaga albogularis*

**Plumbed Whistling Duck**  
*Dendrocygna eyreana*

**Wandering Whistling Duck**  
*Dendrocygna arcuata*

**Water Lilies**  
Aboriginal people ate the water lily flower stems, made damper from the seeds.

**Leichhardt Tree**  
*Nauclaea orientalis*  
Fruit bats love the yellow *Nauclaea* fruit. They can smell it ripening from three kilometres away and sometimes get so full they can't fly home.

**Water Lily**  
*Nymphaea odorata*

**Leichhardt Tree fruit**  
*Nauclaea orientalis*